

REMARKS

Claims 1-48 were pending following the last Office Action. By this paper, claims 1, 3-6, 10, 13-15, 28, 30-31, 34, 36-37 and 43-48 have been amended and claims 2, 11 and 19-27 have been cancelled, such that claims 1, 3-10, 12-18 and 28-48 remain pending, and of which claims 1, 10, 28 and 34 are the only independent claims at issue. Each of the independent claims is discussed in more detail below.

SPECIFICATION

The office action objected to the specification for failing to provide antecedent basis for the subject matter of claims 6 and 15. Claims 6 and 15 have been amended with the Examiner's suggested interpretation. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the objection to the specification.

Additionally, the specification has been amended to correct an obvious numbering typographical error. No new matter has been added by the amendment to the specification.

DRAWINGS

The drawings have been amended to correct an obvious typographical error. Figure 3 has been amended to correct the numbering of the Authentication Manager from 24 to 48. This is done to eliminate a redundant numbering and to correct the numbering as discussed in paragraphs [044] and [045] of the patent application.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The office action objected to claims 4, 5, 13, and 14 for various informalities. The claims have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis and/or comply with the Examiner's suggestions.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

The Office Action mailed June 16, 2005 considered claims 1-48. Claims 1-3, 5-12, 14-26 and 28-42 and 44-47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Ellis et al. US Pat. Pub. No. 2005/0028208 ("*Ellis*"). Claims 4, 13 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ellis* in view of Herrington et al., WO 00/78050 ("*Herrington*").

Claims 27 and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ellis* in view of Artigalas et al. US Pat Pub. No. 2001/0014206 ("*Arigalas*").¹

The present application is directed to a system where a user remote from a multimedia device, such as a set top box for displaying programming on a display, can access the multimedia device to control the multimedia device. In this manner, the user can adjust various settings, schedule time shifting recording, and the like. The embodiments claimed by the amended claims recite that a user is authenticated *to the multimedia device*. This prevents unauthorized persons from, for example, altering or viewing settings on the multimedia device.

For example, claim 1 recites elements of accessing a client system through a network with a remotely located access device; authenticating a user of the remotely located access device to a client system; once the user is authenticated, retrieving and displaying a program guide on the remotely located access device; selecting an event using the program guide; sending the selected event to the client system; and scheduling the event at the client system.

Claim 10 is a computer program product claim that recites the elements of claim 1.

Claim 28 is similar to claim 1 with a number differences including that it recites the use of device services and authentication services to authenticate the user. Additionally, claim 28 is directed specifically to set top boxes.

Claim 34 is a computer program product claim that recites the elements of claim 28.

Ellis, in direct contrast to what is recited by the claims does not teach that a user authenticates with a client or set top box. Rather, the cited portions of *Ellis* teach that a third party authorizes programs to be delivered to a set top box (paragraph [0007]), and that a television distribution facility may poll user equipment to determine authorization to watch pay per view or to log programs that have been viewed [0070]. These authorization techniques disclosed by *Ellis* are directed to connecting a distribution facility with television equipment and not a user to a client or set top box. This allows the distribution facility to deliver content to paid subscribers. The examples cited are not concerned with authenticating a user to a client or set top box as is recited by the claims of the present application, rather the examples shown authenticate television distribution equipment to a set top box. *Ellis* also shows using a password

¹ Although the prior art status of the cited art is not being challenged at this time, Applicants reserve the right to challenge the prior art status of the cited art at any appropriate time, should it arise. Accordingly, any arguments and amendments made herein should not be construed as acquiescing to any prior art status of the cited art.

to adjust parental control and program guide information at paragraph [0099]. However, again in this example, the user provides a password to authenticate to an internet service (not to a client or set top box) for a web page. The changed settings are then transferred from the internet service to the user television equipment. The authentication is not done by a user to a set top box or client as is recited by the claims of the present application.

Herrington and *Arigalas* do not compensate for the deficiencies of *Ellis*. In particular, *Herrington* appears to be an international filing that is nearly identical to and claims at least one common inventor with *Ellis*. *Arigalas* is cited only for showing deleting programs from a collection of stored programs.

In view of the foregoing, the rejections of record are now moot, such that it is not necessary to address each of the other assertions of record in the last response. Nevertheless, Applicants reserve the right to challenge any of said assertions in the future, including any official notice. Furthermore, although the foregoing remarks are primarily directed to the independent claims, it will be appreciated that the dependent claims should also be found allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons as provided above.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 29 day of August, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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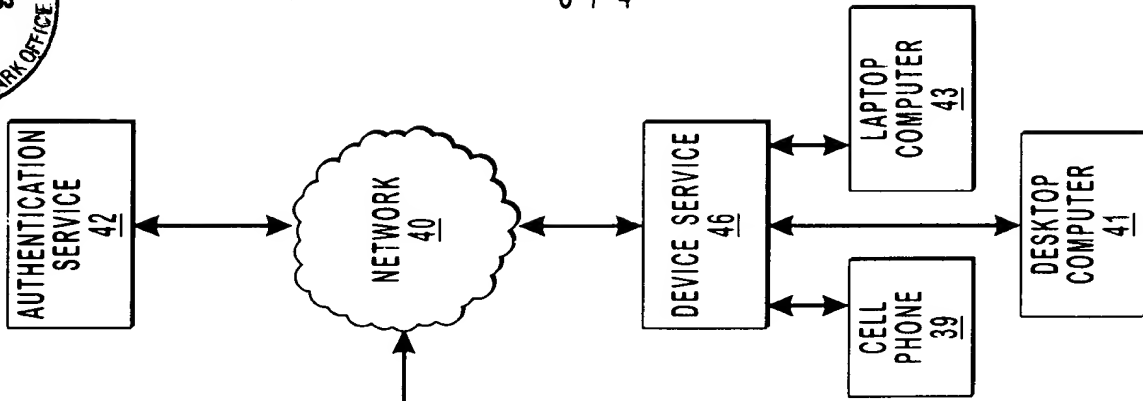


FIG. 3

